[24th July 1953

SRI M. VEERABHADRAM :—" Sir, is there any rule prohibiting the opening of a school within one mile of another school, which is there already, even though the two schools may be situated in two separate villages?"

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" A certain amount of planning is necessary whenever we give permission for starting new schools. It is certainly necessary to lay down the minimum distance between one school and another in order to avoid competition. But every encouragement is given taking into consideration the area, its accessibility and the number of children likely to be required for the school."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Question time is over. The answers to the rest of the questions will be printed in the proceedings."

Alleged murder of Sri Eganathan, a Harijan lad.

* 974 *Q.*—SRI A. RATHINAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government received representations from various Harijan organizations of India and the father of one Eganathan, a murdered Harijan lad, about the inaction of the police in the matter of investigation into the murder of the said Eganathan; and

(*b*) whether the Government have taken any action on the representations made to them?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) Representations regarding the alleged murder of the Harijan lad Eganathan and the inaction of the police in the matter were received by the Government from Sri N. S. Karuppiah, father of Eganathan, from Sri S. Raman, brother of Sri N. S. Karuppiah and from the General Secretary, Pan Malayan Adi-Dravida Federation, Singapore.

" (*b*) Yes; an enquiry by the C.I.D. was ordered by the Government. The enquiry showed that there was no evidence to conclude definitely that the deceased had been murdered. There was also nothing to show that the police had failed in their duty."

Purchase of Gosthani and Meghadrigadda water-works in Visakhapatnam by Government.

* 975 *Q.*—SRI M. VEERABHADRAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that in the year 1946–47 the Military Department offered the Gosthani and Meghadrigadda water-works in Visakhapatnam to the Government for sale;

(*b*) if so, at what rate they were offered; and

(*c*) what was the reply given to them by the Government?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (b) The rate offered for Gosthani water-works by the Military Department was Rs. 18·07 lakhs and for Meghadrigadda water-works Rs. 8·58 lakhs.

" (c) A sum of Rs. 10 lakhs was paid for the Gosthani water-works. The Military authorities were not in favour of selling the Meghadrigadda water-supply installations to the municipality, as they wanted to sell it to the Harbour authorities."

Cost of palmyra trees on poramboke and assessed dry lands.

* 976 Q.—SRI S. VEMIAH : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether the cost of palmyra trees existing on porambokes and assessed dry lands has been enhanced in G.O. No. 5738, Development, dated 19th November 1951;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same; and

(c) whether the cost of leaves of palmyra trees has also been enhanced in that Government Order; and if so, to what extent?

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" (a) Yes.

" (b) The old rates were fixed long ago and due to rise in the cost of living they were enhanced along with the rates of other trees and forest produce.

" (c) Yes, by 200 per cent."

Pattas for the house-sites assigned to the people of Pasalapudi village, Tanuku taluk.

* 977 Q.—SRI K. KRISHNA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether the inhabitants of Pasalapudi village, Tanuku taluk, West Godavari district, have made representations to the Government to grant them permanent pattas of the house-sites assigned to them by Zamindar of Nidadavole Estate about 25 years back on which they built houses but are served with eviction orders; and if so, what action was taken by the Government on such representations?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The answer is in the negative."

Harijan workers employed in tanneries.

* 978 Q.—SRI M. RAJESWARA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state the amount from the Harijan Uplift and other Government funds that has been spent for the uplift of Harijans and Harijan Christian workers employed in the tanneries in the State during the years 1946–52 and up to 31st December 1952 ?